The Story of the Widows *Sow, and Ten Piggs. With* Robin *the Steward's* Anſwer *to* John *the Bailiff's* Letter.

JOHN,

MY Lady is content that you ſhou'd know, ſhe likes well of your Contrition, and wou'd, I believe, be very glad to hear it was real; tho' ſhe do's not approve that *Harry* the Clerk ſhou'd meddle in the Matter. I deſire you to be very circumſpect in your Behaviour, becauſe there are thoſe who are not wanting to give my Lady an Account of all your Motions. The Mayor and Aldermen of *Lincoln*, give you a favourable Character ſtill, and their compliance with my Lady's Requeſt lately, may be of the higheſt Service toward reconciling you.

Ned Proceſs the Attorney, has ſeen your Letter, and we all agree that you have large Effects convey'd over the *Humber*; ſo that you ought really to think of making ſome Reſtitution; but however, you need not doubt of my Lady's Clemency and Indulgence therein; and in that Caſe may aſſure

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your ſelf of all my good Offices. The Tryal is put off for a longer Time, and you have thereby opportunity enough to make your Propoſals.

As to *Margery* the *Dairy-Maid*, ſhe had not the Manners to take leave of my Lady, or thank her for her paſt Favours; which in an old Servant, and one that has had ſo good a Place on't, makes her look'd upon as a dirty Huſſy. Pray let her ſend the *Pluſh-Pillion* back by *Dick* the *Miller*, the next Journey he makes into *Derbyſhire*. I wiſh ſhe had not a hand in conveying away *Jack Snugg*, but I ſhall ſay no more of that.

We hear that he has been ſeen in *Lincolnſhire*, and that *Bob Huſh* the Collier had a Hand in carrying him away; which if we can prove, we'll make him ſmoke for't worſe than he did when the *Parſon* Caſt him at the *Quarter-Seſſions*, and had him committed in Execution to the *Caſtle*, where he had lain till this Time, but for good Friends. *Charles* the Groom, they ſay, has a very long Letter from him, perhaps in time it may be enquir'd how he came by it, he has been a very buſy Man in the Affair.

My Lady hopes you will think it your Duty, not to influence that *Family* in *Derbyſhire* to meddle in the next Elections. They have been very Active in ſpreading Reports to the Prejudice of my Lady's *Servants*, and have meddled too much with the Affairs of the *Family*. They

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They have alſo ſet *Grub* the *Scotch* Bell-man to Work, who has ſpread ſeveral falſe Libels about the Country, which they have furniſh'd him with; but he has been catch'd at laſt, and my Lady has put *Ned Proceſs* upon his Back. There was a mighty ſplutter made by his Friends at the Tryal, but he ſtands fair for loſing his Ears. My *Lady* hears you are going into *Yorkſhire*, you would do well to mind Sir *Charles* of the many Obligations he lies under to her; I hope your Diſcretion will direct you in this.

My *Lady* has bought the large *Yorkſhire Sow* that *you* were about laſt *Boſton-Fair*, but could not agree in the Price, when *you* employed the two *Lincolnſhire* Drovers. She Pig'd ſince laſt *Chriſtmas*, but it is verily believed ſome *Necromancy* had been practiſed on her, for we have had a deal of Trouble with the Pigs; they have run up and down the Country, ſnuffing up their Noſes in the Wind, like Things Bewitch'd: We have have got 'em at home again now indeed, but one or two; but if *they* are ſo troubleſome *any* more, my *Lady* is reſolved to diſpoſe of the Sow and all.

I had forgot to tell *you* the *Scotch Vicar* has been troubled for Tithe Pig, and has ſet forth a large *Preamble* to prove his Claim, but the honeſt People of *Derbyſhire only* ſmile at him for his Pains.

Pray remember the Silver Spurs for Charles the Groom, and believe me to be your Friend, Robin *the Steward.*

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